

BA-1588

Cockey's Tavern & Stable

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 06-23-2004

CAPSULE - COCKEY'S TAVERN

While this building has seen various uses as both a residence and store its most significant period was that time when it was a tavern on the Falls Turnpike Road. The turnpike was begun in 1808 and operated as a toll road until 1905. Cockey's tavern and store operated during most of that time.

The large structure evolved in various stages. Most of the main block dates from the Federal Period but contains an earlier log core. The building has been its present size for a century. Different members of the Cockey family owned and operated the tavern and store. It operated as a hostelry at least up until 1877 when John Cockey, Jr. died. The inventory of his estate shows that he had tavern furniture enough for six bedrooms, a parlor, dining room and kitchen.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1588

MAGI - 0315884211

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Cockey's Tavern

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

10749 Falls & Greenspring Valley Rds.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Eighth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Baltimore**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mercedes Cockey

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Unknown

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Court Building

Liber #: 1319

Folio #: 56

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>Dec., 1978</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Early maps, public records such as wills, deeds, tax lists and census data along with the presence of such early construction materials as hand made nails, hewn timbers, logs and beaded siding prove that this is the old Cockey Tavern. The same evidence suggests that the oldest portion of the building dates from at least the 1830's, if not earlier in the century, and should be seen as an important part of that period we call the Federal Era. That period saw tremendous building activity in a newly formed nation not the least of which was the opening of new transportation routes that included many new canals, roads and bridges. The building of Federal City itself was a highlight of this period, as was the building of the C & O Canal and the National Turnpike. For instance, no less than nine turnpikes leading out of Baltimore alone were constructed between the 1790's and late 1820's and one of these was the Falls Turnpike. That tollroad was begun in 1808 and operated for over 95 years. Cockey's Tavern sat directly on this road and had a direct physical and economic relationship to it. Although the earlier Falls Road continued farther north the turnpike itself ended practically in front of the tavern at the land of one of its founders and presidents Richard Caton of Brooklandwood. Caton was a close neighbor of the Cockeys and had had real estate dealings with Jonathon Tipton.

It is ironic that the Falls turnpike modern successor, the Jones Falls Expressway, also ends at this point and the commercial development which it has facilitated is now dwarfing and perhaps threatening the very existence of the Cockey Tavern and homestead.

Exterior-

The present exterior appearance creates the false impression of a unified frame-and-clapboard structure. The interior reveals a building that has evolved with at least three, if not five, stages of development.

On the exterior, however, one sees a two story gable-end building which is covered with plain clapboards. Disimilar chimneys (interior) are at both ends. Single and double story additions project to the North and East of the main block which faces West on Falls Road. The main block rests on a field stone foundation that is 21" high on the south-east corner.

The main or west facade is characterized by its long four bays (44' 8") and the shed roofed porch which covers the entire first level (92" deep). Commercial renovations have altered the original appearance of the first level but tall 6/9 sash with occasional panes of wavy and bubbled glass remain in the south bays. Their openings are 31" x 76". Smaller 6/6 sash can be seen in the evenly distributed bays of the second level.

The porch consists almost entirely of modern materials. The porch ceiling is made of butt joined boards which have the hooks for a siving remaining on the south end.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

A single story shed roofed addition is attached to the north end of the main block. It is frame with German siding and measures 12½' on the west wall and 18' 5" along the north side. That portion of the main block which is visible above this addition is windowless.

The south end of the main block is windowless as well. It is here that one can see most clearly that the block is extended to the rear or East the distance of one bay by a two story frame and stone addition. The addition runs the entire length of the east facade, is stone on the first level with frame above. There is some attempt at coursing in the stonework although these are random sized stones.

On the east side this addition entirely obscures the main block. The fenestration of the addition is consistent with regard to type and size (6/6 sash with 28" x 44" openings on the bottom level) but irregular in placement. The spacing is interrupted on both levels of the north bays clearly in order to accommodate an attachment to the brick kitchen. This fact along with interior evidence in the kitchen building suggests that the brick structure was a separate and free standing building and that the stone and frame section is newer than either it or obviously the main block.

It is assumed that this single story structure was detached or possibly a semi-detached kitchen. Its location so close to but behind the main block, the choice of brick for its construction and the presence of a flue-chimney point towards this possibility. A tavern with at least six bedrooms and a large dining room required a substantial kitchen. This 16' x 19' building was most likely it.

A gable end roof with almost no overhang gives the little building an odd appearance. Its longitudinal plan runs East-West and the off center interior end chimney on the east end furthers this effect. Heavy coats of paint obscure the type of bind but it appears to consist entirely of stretchers. A window and a door vent the south wall. The window is 29" wide and exists 3' 5" from the southeast corner. The door occupies the west bay and it too is a 29" opening. Between the door and the corner where the two buildings join is a non-functional shutter lock with a square plain appearance that seems to some how predate the Victorian period.

On both the exterior and interior the doors and windows are trimmed with a beaded moulding that appears to be attached with cut nails.

The north side of this building repeats the plan of the south in reverse. The window occupies the west bay. It is 6/6 sash with bubbled panes of glass that are 8" x 10" beneath the mullions. The door is a solid Victorian 2/2 raised panel.

The east end of the kitchen structure is windowless. An interior end chimney exists approximately 2' on the north side of the ridge.

One must step down into this building at least 7" from any of the doorways. The interior is finished with hair plaster and made decorative with beaded window and door trim and a crown moulding that makes the transition between the walls and tongue-and-groove ceiling.

The west wall contains a door leading into the tavern as well as further evidence that this was a free standing structure; a no longer functional window in the north bay.

The east wall has a flue-chimney with multiple openings. It is 22" wide and projects into the room 13½".

Interior-

Given its age and commercial nature the interior of this building is remarkably unaltered. While the present use of the first level as showrooms is extremely 20th century in atmosphere the size of the two principal rooms and physical relationships as connecting parlors remains the same. The south room still has its Federal style mantle and string stairs in the southeast corner. If the flooring is not original it is certainly 19th century.

Structural analysis shows that the north half of the tavern is a separate log building with a one up/one down plan that was doubled in size by a frame addition to the south early in its history. This building was then enlarged by at least one more addition on the East. The interior plan then is that of connected but separate halves with "back" rooms. On the first floor for instance there are the two principal rooms with two more smaller rooms to the rear (East). These were probably the "parlor" and "dining room" referred to in the 1878 inventory of John Cockey Jr.'s estate. As to which room was used specifically for dining is uncertain unless the fact that the north room being closest to the kitchen building is an indication.

The south room contains a fireplace in the south wall. The fireplace is made decorative by a Federal style mantle whose shelf is 70" long and 62 $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the floor. The opening is 53" wide and 49" high.

The southeast corner of the room contains an enclosed string stairs from which a double struck nail was pulled.

The upper rooms follow a similar arrangement as below. In the main block there is a north room and a south room both having the trapezoidal ceilings characteristic of older steeply pitched gable roofs and gambrels. The north room has logs visible for approximately 3' above the floor. (In these rooms the east and west walls almost assume the character of a mansard roof). At the ends of this room there is a distance of 86" between the floor and ceiling.

The south room exhibits the same shape although there are no logs forming the knee wall. The south wall has a miniature version of the Federal fireplace mantle below although the fireplace itself is closed. The south wing has a longitudinal hall which runs along the east side of the old portion of the main block and one must travel the entire distance of it in going from the north room to the south. An awkward closet occupies much of the distance in between along the west side of the hall. That the inner wall of the closet contains the same beaded chair rail as the rest of the hall plus a difference in the solidity of the east wall of the south room indicates that the present hall and doorways are not original.

The east addition provides four rooms on the upper level. These rooms are connected; each is reached by stepping down from the main block and each is trimmed out with tongue-and-groove paneling. The two large rooms of the oldest sections plus these added rooms total six separate chambers. John Cockey, Jr.'s inventory of 1878 lists furniture for six bedrooms in the tavern, however, the possibilities of the two larger north and south rooms having been previously subdivided is as yet indefinite.

Early Fabric-

There is no known basement area beneath the tavern and whatever crawlspace there is between the first floor and ground (c. 20" in most places) is unaccessable at present (Dec., 1978). Except for the logs, some flooring and the mantle pieces little in the way of unaltered original fabric is exposed on the first two levels. A trap door in the north-east room, however, provides access to an attic which contains a great deal of information and which exists as a museum of sorts that has been visited in this century by only an occasional electrician or two.

In the attic of the east addition one can observe the exterior of the east side of the last roof to cover the north and south sections prior to the construction of that addition. Riven shingles attached with cut nails sheath a roof which covers both the log section and the south extension.

One can see under the eaves at this point and observe that in both sections thick studs are joined to joists or tie-beams via open mortise joists with trunnels. Previous explorers have removed small sections of this earlier roof thus allowing access to the original attics of the log section and the south extension.

It is this area which substantiates the belief that the log portion pre-dates the south wing. A definite break is observed between the south and north halves and in the attic of the south section one can see an early exterior siding of the south gable end of the log building. This gable is finished with beaded clapboards (5" showing) attached with double struck nails.

One can also see from this vantage point that the walls of the upper room of the log building are plastered using split laths that are of random width and thickness.

Inside of the attic over the log section one can see much in the manner of early construction techniques. The "plates" of the log walls below are approximately 4' beneath the tie-beams or joists that carry the flat plates to which the principal rafters are fixed. 4' studs are toe-nailed to the plate logs with as yet unidentified nails. These studs are set 28" center to center, measure 5" wide by 3 3/4" in thickness, and are sculptured to accomodate the inward slant of the roof and ceiling. There is 5' 2" between the flat plates and log plates. Each stud is also cut out at its upper end to receive a tie-beam or rafter that is locked into it via a trunnel. The studs support the afore mentioned plates and are load bearing for the downward thrust of the rafters. The principal rafters are joined at the ridge via mortise-tenon-and trunnel.* In each end the rafter of one side is numbered with Roman numerals that correspond with the rafter of the opposite side. The rafters appear to be pit sawn, the regularity of the marks suggests a mechanized saw. The purlins for this section of the roof are fastened with spikes that have cut shanks with hand fashioned heads. The wind braces and make shift "queen posts" employ reused materials (eg. beaded chair rail) with nails that have struck heads. At least two nails were found in this area that were non-functional (if ever used) that were protruding from purlins and are characterized by hand fashioned heads and points on cut shanks. (Examples in Historic Towson, Inc. files). The end braces or studs of the gables are fixed with similar nails and many of these pieces still have bark of them.

*This method of construction and the angles formed by it are good evidence that both the north and south sections were covered with a gambrel roof.

Since the log building pre-dates the south section the question arises concerning the location of a fireplace and chimney. The present chimney on the north end is a flue-chimney that does not appear wide enough to have served a fireplace. The only evidence found thus far is the ridge collar of the flue-chimney. At present there is non-functional bracing attached to the rafters that could have collared a chimney 12" wider than the present one. The ridge hole for the present cap is 4" wider than it has to be. The south gable contains no evidence of a chimney.

The attic of the south section suggests that that portion of the building is not a great deal newer than the log portion or at least there is little difference in the age of the roofs. While the nails of the framing appear to be a later cut type than the double struck in the north end the construction is exactly the same ie. trusses made of vertically sawn rafters joined at the ridge via mortise-tenon-trunnel resting on flat plates. These plates rest on the ends of the tie-beams supported by thick studs with open mortise joints and trunnels.

The wide chimney on the south gable appears unaltered and serves fireplaces below which are decorated with Federal style mantles.

Summary

This building began as a simple log structure with one room up and one down. Although the larger structure has a long history as a tavern it is uncertain what the original use of the log building was. It is also unclear as to whether or not the original structure was 1½ stories that was later raised to two or if the log building originally had a frame upper portion. The presence of early nails and methods of joining the heavy timbers supports this latter possibility.

The log building was doubled in size by a frame addition on its south end. Materials and construction techniques again indicate that this enlargement took place during the Federal period.

Later in the 19th century the tavern was again made considerably bigger by a two story addition along the entire east side. That the lower story has stone walls while the upper is balloon frame again raises the possibility of a single story later being raised to two. This addition incorporated the single story brick structure off of the northeast corner thus linking it to the main building.

The last addition to the tavern building was the single story shed roofed frame and clapboard construction on the north end. This addition is late 19th century at the earliest if not 20th century.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1808 (Tavern)

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

While this building has seen various uses as both a residence and store its most significant period was that time when it was a tavern on the Falls Turnpike Road. The turnpike was begun in 1808 and operated as a toll road until 1905. Cockey's tavern and store operated during most of that time.

The large structure evolved in various stages. Most of the main block dates from the Federal Period but contains an earlier log core. The building has been its present size for a century. Different members of the Cockey family owned and operated the tavern and store. It operated as a hostelry at least up until 1877 when John Cockey, Jr. died. The inventory of his estate shows that he had tavern furniture enough for six bedrooms, a parlor, dining room and kitchen.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thomas, Dawn. The Green Spring Valley: Its History and Heritage

Vol 1. The Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Md., 1978.

Baltimore County Land Records

Maps of Baltimore City & County: J.C. Sidney, 1850 Robert Taylor, 1857

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. NIELD, II
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

December 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH - COCKEY'S TAVERN
Parcel 441

<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>
1319	56	December 6, 1943	G. William Parker	Mercedes Cockey et.al.
<p>"Beginning at a stone on E. Falls Turnpike Road, North 16½° West 233½'...containing 2.07 acres."</p> <p>- Two parcels,"# 2" known as "Tavern House Lot" on Stephen Cockey plat (c. 1903)</p>				
896	60	March 21, 1932	Joseph D. Cockey	Mercedes Cockey

Will Book WJP 21/218 July 20, 1903 Stephen Cockey
Stephen Cockey to Joseph Cockey via first item of said will

-to my nephew Joseph D. Cockey (son of Charles O. Cockey)
"Tavern House Lot" as drawn by T. H. Disney. Lot # 1.
Containing 2.07 acres.

"Beginning at a stone on the East side of the Falls Turnpike Rd. the beginning of the "Tavern Lot", as described in a division of the Cockey Estate made about May, 1875, and running thence North 16½° West 233½' to a stone, North 85½° West 302' 3" to a stone and thence North 23½° West 31' 9" to the beginning, containing 2 7/100 acres more or less."

1918 Tax Assessment - Stephen Cockey "Store and dwelling \$ 1,168"

1922 Tax Assessment - Joseph D. Cockey "Store and dwelling with Stone stable, \$ 1,1548"

Will Book 4/225 May 14, 1873 John Cockey

"To my son John Cockey...the tavern and lot now occupied by him and situate on the Falls Turnpike...containing 3 acres of land..."

Tax Assessments

Particular List - Back River Upper October 1, 1798Cockey, John of Thomas

1 log dwelling house 2 stories 20' x 32'

Addition to log dwelling 20' x 24'

1 dwelling - logs 12' x 16'

1 log dwelling 12' x 12'

1 stone milk house 10' x 12'

1 log house 16' x 20'

Cockey, Charles

1 frame dwelling house 1 story 10' x 24'

1 log dwelling house 16' x 18'

1 old log kitchen 16' x 10' (12 or 18?)

1 log meat house 14' x 16'

1 log hen house 12' x 14'

Cockey, Caleb

1 stone dwelling house 2 story 22' x 40'

1 stone kitchen 1 story 20' x 22'

1 stone meat house 16' x 16'

1 log hen house 16' x 20'

Tax assessment Particular List continued:

Cockey, John Jun. (Jr.)

- 1 brick dwelling house 2 stories high 20' x 40'
- 1 frame kitchen 12' x 16'

Cockey, Capt. John

- 1 brick dwelling house 2 stories 24' x 44'
- 1 frame house 1 story 13' x 24'
- 1 frame kitchen 16' x 20'
- 1 brick meat house 16' x 17'
- 1 brick milk house 13' x 13'
- 1 brick milk house 16' x 24'
- 1 frame negro house 16' x 20'

Cockey, Thos. of Edward

- 1 frame house 20' x 30'
- 1 log house 16' x 38'
- 1 log milk house 12' x 12'
- 1 log meat house 12' x 16'

A HISTORY

The Greenspring Valley - Its History & Heritage

by Dawn F. Thomas

Maryland Historical Society 1978



Former Cockey's Tavern

Photograph by Thomas W. Mele II

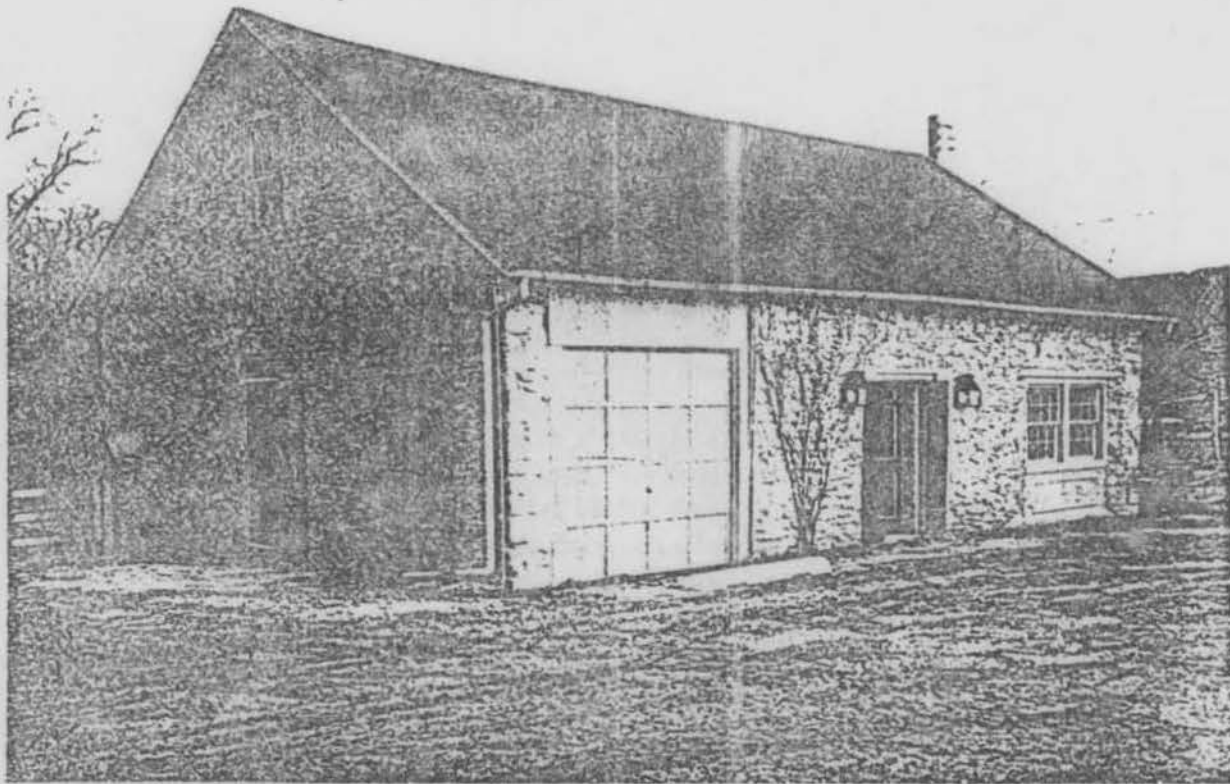
made numerous other natural picturesque places available. Also, by this time many of the former patrons of the hotel had bought land in the Valley and built their own summer houses.²⁴⁶

Gradually the abandoned hotel fell into decay. The shingles of the main building and the cottages blackened and split. Window panes disappeared. The meticulously kept lawns became choked with weeds. The buildings and grounds were finally sold at public auction in November 1922. Soon after the hotel was leveled and the tract of land divided and sold to realty men. Today a number of houses dot its former grounds. Although the valley below is no longer field and meadow, the view from the hill is still lovely, and the area still carries the name Chattolane.²⁴⁷

There was yet another well-known inn in the Green Spring Valley. Sidney's 1850 *Map of Baltimore City and County* listed John Cockey's Tavern, located on the east side of Falls Road at the intersection of Green Spring Valley and Falls Road. The 1850 census for Baltimore County listed a John Cockey, Jr., age twenty-three, innkeeper. His father, also John Cockey, was listed as a farmer, so it would seem that the junior Cockey built a tavern on part of his father's estate. When the father died in 1873 he willed to his son John "the tavern and lot now occupied by him and situated on the Falls Turnpike Road," containing 3 acres. An 1857 map of the area gave the name "J. Cockey Tavern Store."²⁴⁸

Like the other inns on Falls Road, Cockey's Tavern capitalized on the trade of the farmers en

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE VALLEY



Former Stables for Cockey's Tavern
 Photograph by Thomas W. Mele II

route with their produce to Baltimore. Being similarly situated at the end of a county road that ran through the Valley, the inn also offered hospitality to local inhabitants. The only description of this tavern was given in the 1878 inventory of John Cockey, Jr. It listed six rooms which contained featherbeds or straw ticks, bureaus, and carpets. There were also a parlor, a dining room, and a kitchen. Other furnishings were: 2 barroom tables, 7 barroom chairs, 1 barroom setter, 1 barroom clock, 2 barroom looking glasses, bar fixtures, and a barroom stove. The inventoried items were valued at \$507.05.²⁶⁹

Today the front portion of this old inn is a log cabin about 25 feet square which once contained one room above and one below. An addition was made, perhaps by John Cockey when he began his business, to the side and back, doubling the size of the building. Today there are four rooms on the first floor and five above. The building has only two fireplaces, one on each floor in this addition. The small stone building to the south was the stable. The stone portion measures 25 x 40 feet and a 20 x 20 foot addition was made to the back in 1967.²⁷⁰

John Cockey, Jr., married Harriet Parks who died in childbirth. The baby, a girl, died soon after. Several years later he married Emma Hall by whom he had three children, none of whom lived to adulthood. In 1875 the large Cockey estate was divided. Apparently Emma (Hall) Cockey was already deceased and John Cockey, having no heirs, arranged for this division. When he died on 19 December

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE VALLEY

1877, his "tavern house lot" went to his half brother, Stephen Cockey, who also owned a large portion of the surrounding land.²⁷¹ By the terms of his will filed in 1920, Stephen Cockey, a bachelor, left his estate of more than 100 acres to his four nephews and one niece, children of his brother, Charles O. Cockey. Lot number one, "Tavern House Lot," 2.07 acres, went to Joseph D. Cockey.²⁷²

Today the old Cockey's Tavern still stands, but it serves a different purpose. A sign above the porch advertises the Graceline Kitchens, an establishment begun in 1946 by Andrew Gehrmann who leased the old inn and stable and 2 acres from Miss Mercedes Cockey. When Miss Cockey died, the property passed to Mrs. Frederick Walzog, the present owner. Mr. Gehrmann remodeled the inn, which he uses as his office and showroom; the old stable serves as a shop and work area.²⁷³

In the northeastern end of the Valley there once stood yet another hotel which has vanished without trace. The Avalon Inn sat on a hill above Green Spring Valley Road, beside the present Park Heights Avenue. It was a large, frame, three-story building with a wide porch that swept across its front. It too sheltered Baltimoreans escaping the heat. Patrons of the Avalon Inn arrived by the Green Spring branch, disembarking at Eccleston Station where the inn's carriages awaited them. An 1898 newspaper notice announced the opening of the "new and modern" inn under the proprietorship of James F. Bohen. At the time 95 acres were owned by the Stevenson Company.²⁷⁴

The inn offered accommodations similar to the Chattolane, and both hotels were favorite spots for honeymooners. Early in 1912 Mrs. Sarah F. Wright bought the property for \$45,000 from the Glenwood Springs Company, owners since 1901. Her term as proprietress was short lived, however, for on 30 October 1912 the inn was destroyed by fire. At the time there were still about thirty guests in residence, most of whom were gathered on the porch when the fire broke out in mid-morning. Many Valley residents, such as Irvine Keyser, and some twenty employees from Burnside, Samuel Shoemaker's dairy from across the way, assisted the firemen in removing belongings from the building. Four cottages, the garage, and servants' quarters were saved, but the hotel was a total loss.²⁷⁵

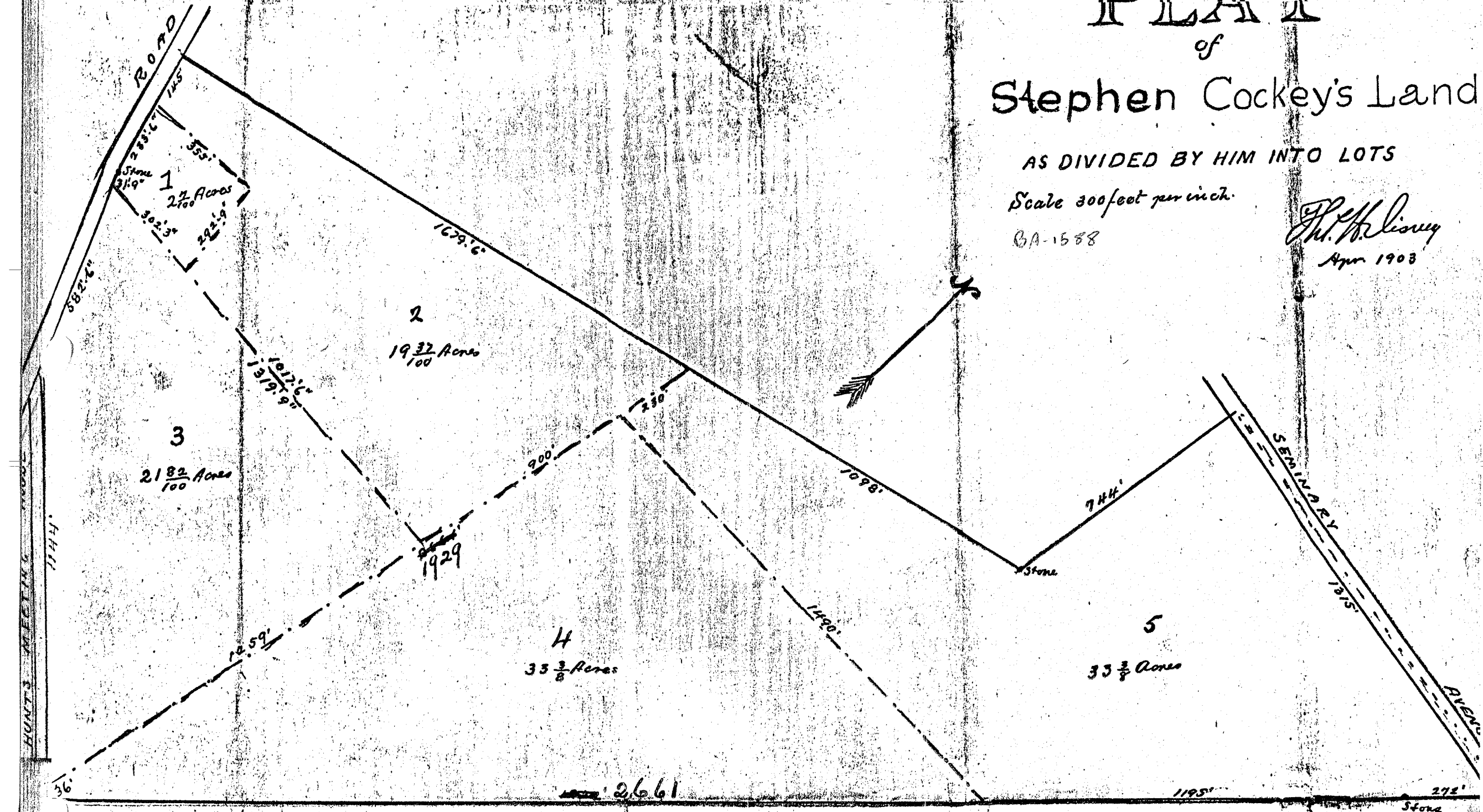
Osborne Beall recalled attending the public school near Eccleston Station the day of the fire. His teacher allowed the students to watch the great clouds of smoke billowing up from the burning inn. Mrs. H. Benthall Marshall remembered on that day she was traveling in her father's horse and buggy to spend the day with her grandmother at Brooklandwood. As they reached Park Heights Avenue she saw little children walking down the road to the train clutching bundles of possessions.²⁷⁶

The Avalon and the Chattolane Hotels closed at about the same time—only a year apart. Both estates were subsequently sold and new houses built on their grounds. When Mrs. Wright and her husband sold the Avalon property to Eva Roberts Stotesbury of Philadelphia in 1913, little did they know that a handsome mansion would soon stand on the site.²⁷⁷

Completed in 1917 at a cost of \$1,000,000, the white stucco marble house was then 77 feet long, 75 feet wide, and contained a reception hall, drawing room, dining room, breakfast room, nine bedrooms, and six baths. Quarters for servants included ten rooms and three baths. A short distance away was a ten-car garage, with four servants' rooms on the second floor. It was the new home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter B. Brooks, Jr., Mr. Brooks having married Louise Cromwell, daughter of Mrs. Stotesbury by her first husband. Mrs. Brooks remarried several times: her second husband was Major General Douglas MacArthur, who named the house Rainbow Hill in honor of the Rainbow Division he had led during World War I; her third husband was Lionel Atwill, the actor. They sold the estate in 1940 to Henry and Ruth (Blaustein) Rosenberg. Mr. Rosenberg was the president of Crown Central Petroleum Company. After her husband's death, Mrs. Rosenberg sold the estate of some 90 acres to the Rainbow Hill Corporation. Since 1964 it has been owned by the Baptist Home of Maryland, Incorporated, who renovated the thirty-three room mansion as a home for elderly Baptists.²⁷⁸

Of all the inns and hotels that have been discussed, only the Valley Inn continues to be used as it was originally intended.

J. H. Lisney
Apr. 1903



70"

FIREPLACE

COCKEY TAVERN

BA-1588

62 1/4"

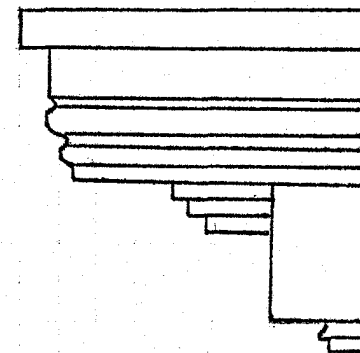
53"

41"

49"

40"

4 1/2"

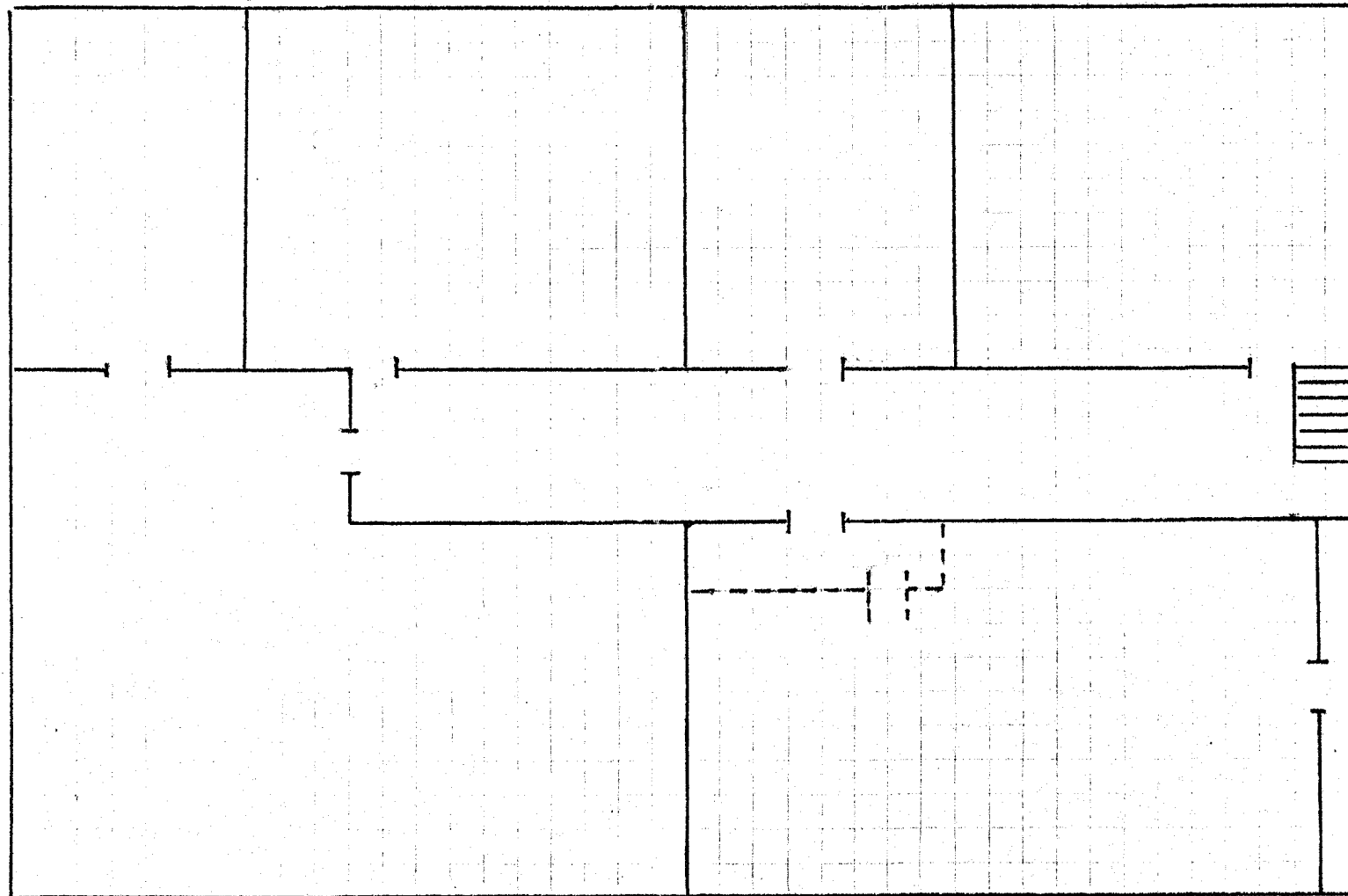


SHELF

BA-1588
D.O.S.

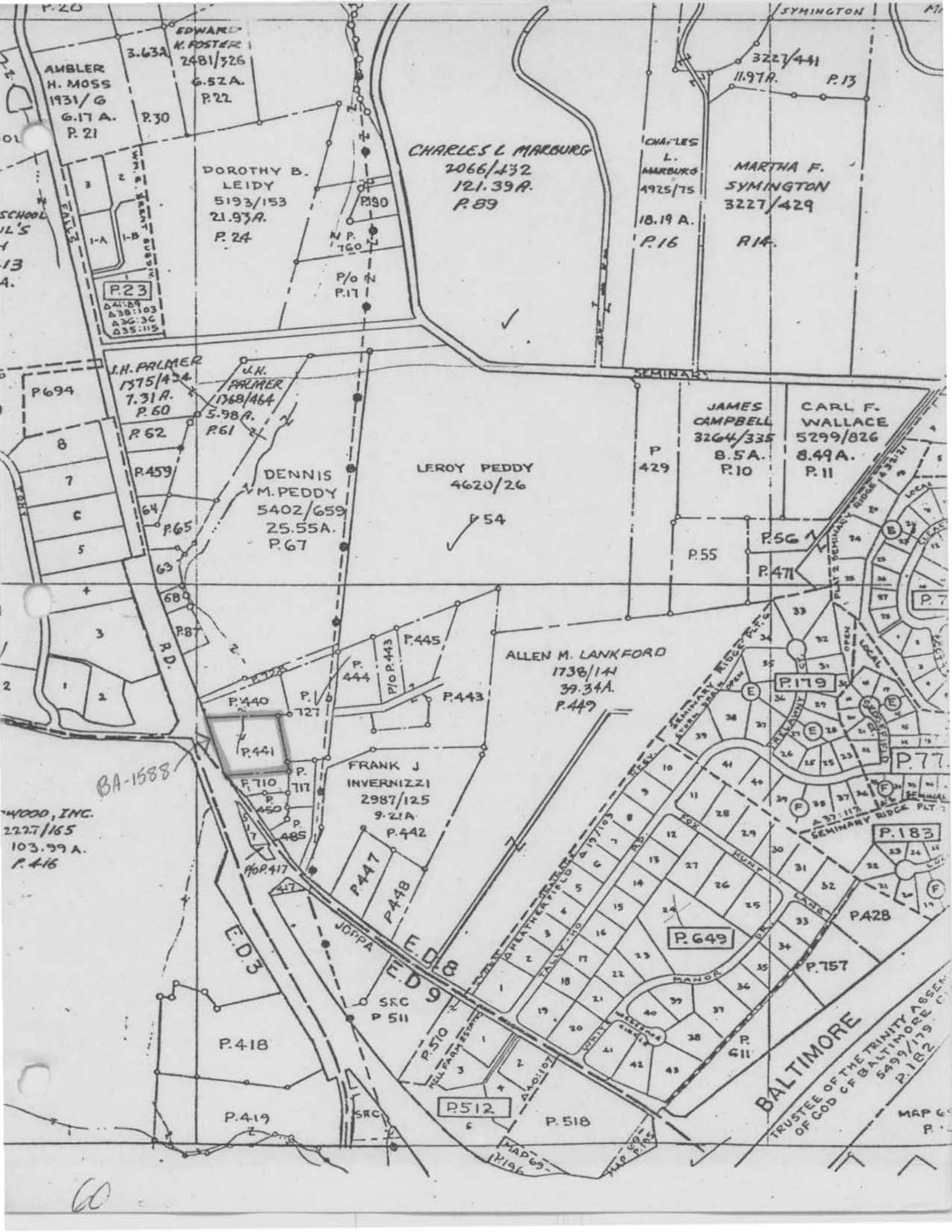
FLOOR PLAN, SECOND FLOOR - COCKEY TAVERN

N

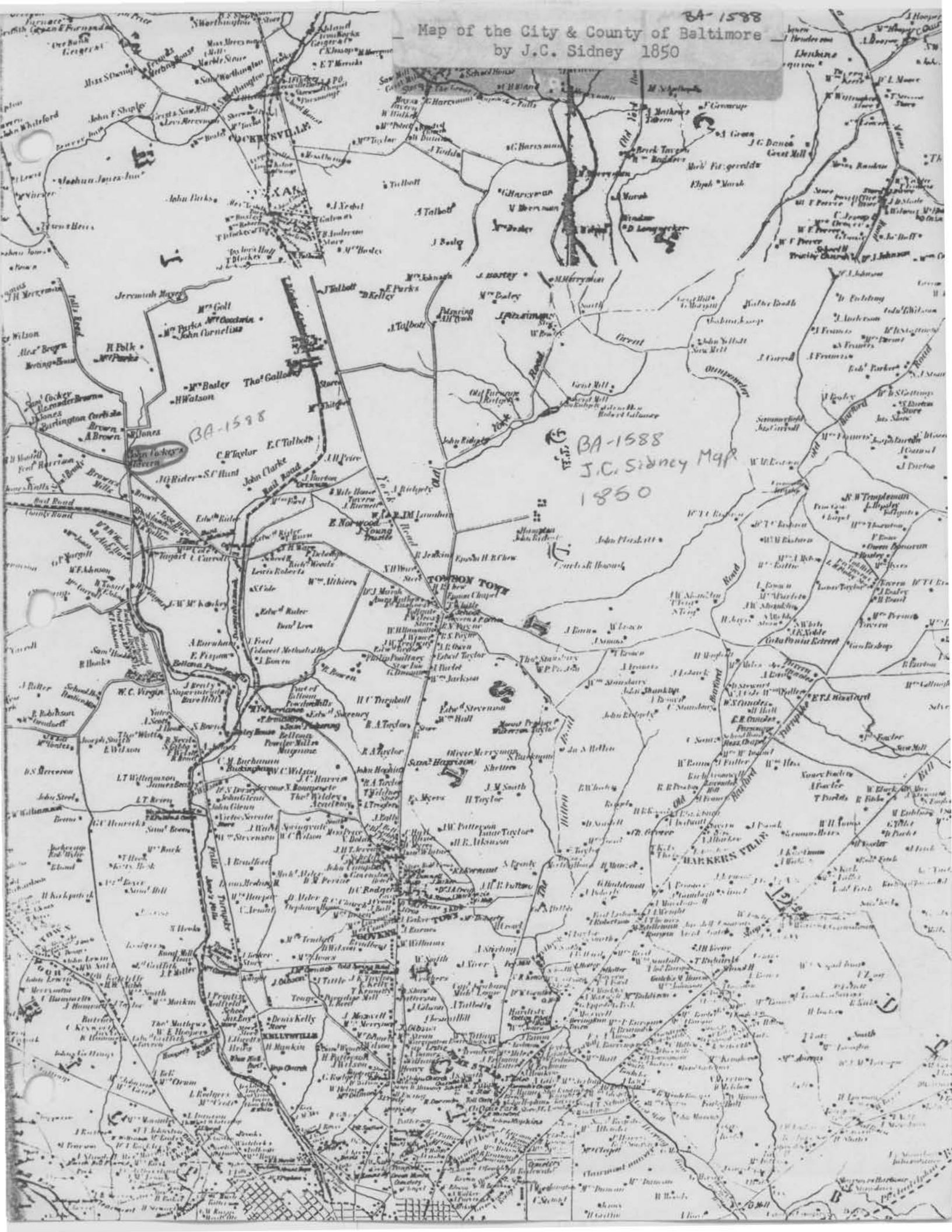


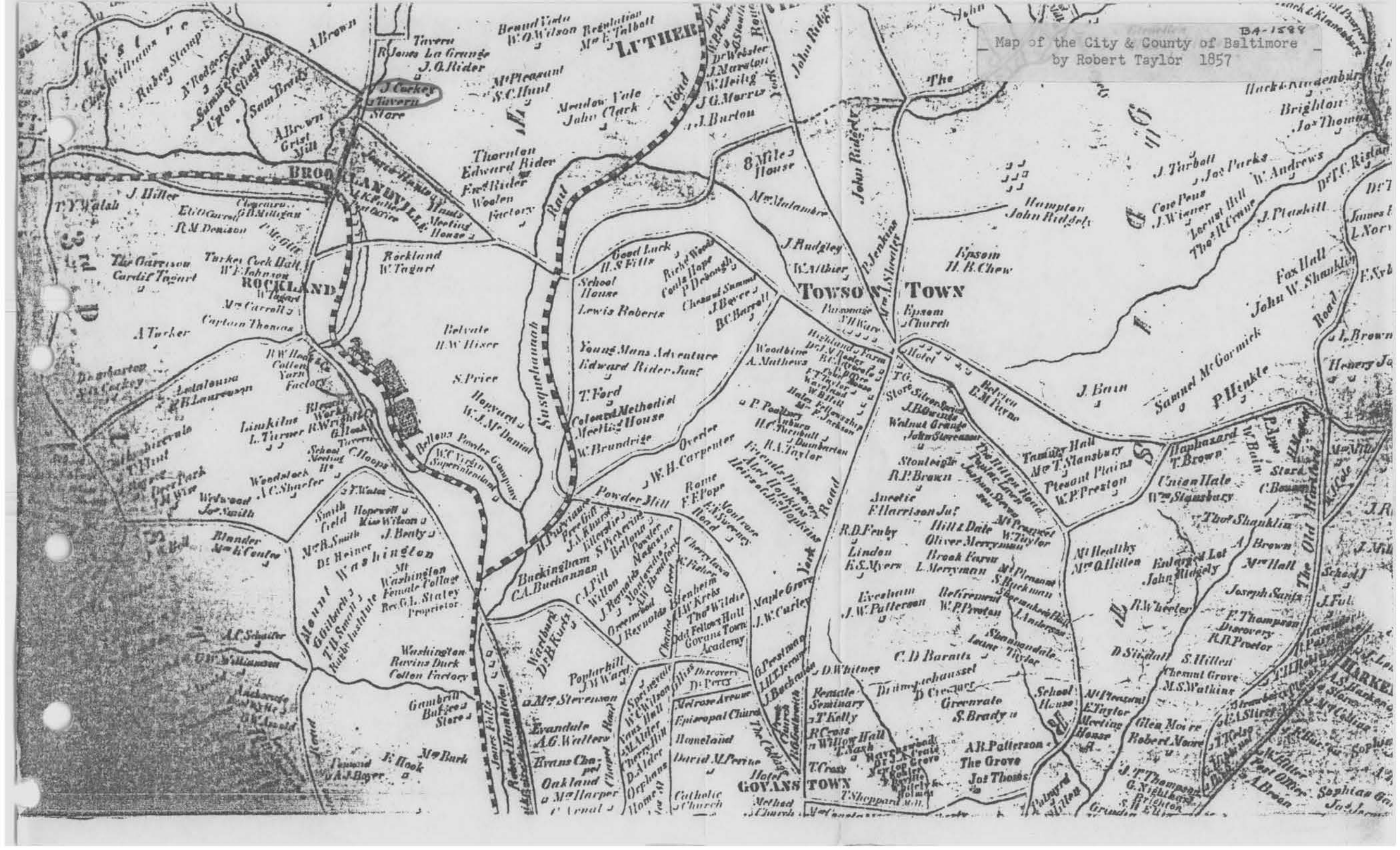
S

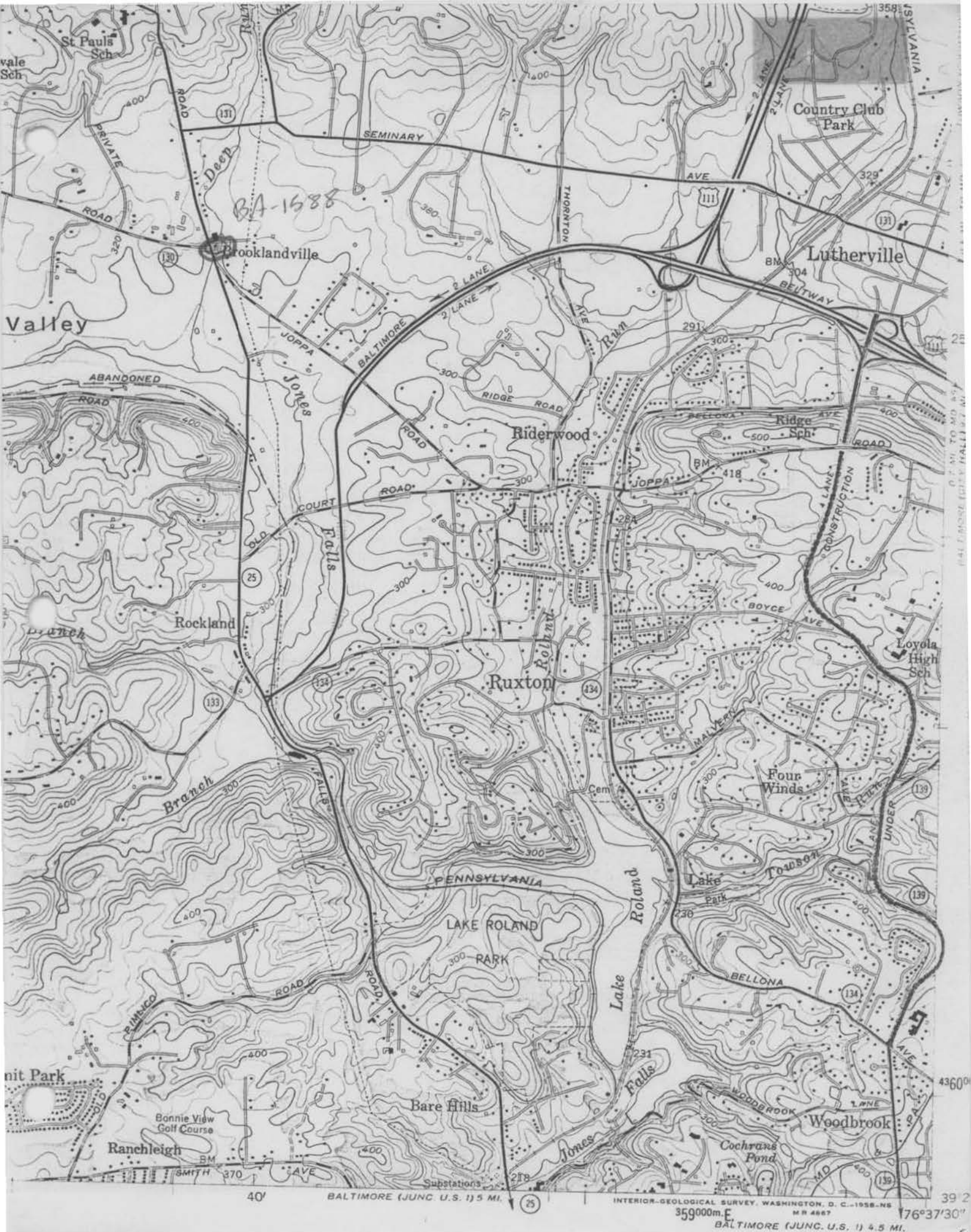
Jonathan Tipton } Dated the 2nd day of
to } December 1725 Beginning
Thomas Barker } at a bound maple standing by
Branch 6th by the deep Branch
being a tree of 6th Branch and a tract of
land called Selco and running thence South and
east one hundred and twenty perches thence north
forty degrees east four hundred and eighty perches
thence north forty degrees west one hundred and thirty
perches thence north 60 degrees west seventy perches
thence north thirty five degrees west one hundred and
two perches thence west 21 perches thence South 5
3⁴ degrees west 78 perches then South 20 8 perches
then South 52 degrees west 92 perches then South
24 degrees east 25 perches then South west
70 perches then South 4 degrees west 30 perches
then with a straight line to the Beginning
tree containing 600 acres of land more or less
True & that from S. S. N. H. 210
Wm. Barker



BA-1588







BA-1688

359000m.E

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.-1958-NS
MR 4667
BALTIMORE (JUNC. U.S. 1) 4.5 MI.

39 2

176°37'30"



BA-1588-A

STABLE-COCKEY'S
TAVERN

S.W. CORNER

W. NIELD
3/79



BA- 1588-A

STABLE-
COCKEY'S TAVERN
N.W. CORNER

W. NIEL
7/79



1588 G.S.V.H.D.
Cockeys Tavern and Stable
Falls Road. fr. S.W.
L. Eaton 4/80
Md. Hist. Trust

BA



BA-1588

COCKEY'S TAVERN
E. FACADE
DETAIL

W. NIELD
7/79



BA-1588

COCKEY'S TAVERN
E.

W. NIELD
3/79



BA-1588

COCKEY'S TAVERN
S.E CORNER

W. NIELD
7/79



BA-1588

COCKEY'S TAVERN
S.W. CORNER

W. NIELD
3/79



BA-1588

COCKEY'S TAVERN
N.W. CORNER

W. NIELD
7/79